



State of California - The Resources Agency

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>
4949 Viewridge Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201



June 2, 2006

Ms. Deborah Ruddock
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11TH Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Support for Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation Acquisition of the Murphy and Mitsuuchi Properties,
or Portions Thereof, at Batiquitos Lagoon

Dear Ms. Ruddock:

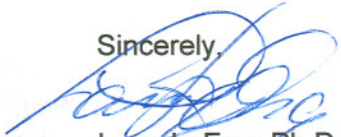
The Department of Fish and Game (Department) respectfully submits this Letter of Support to you on behalf of the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation ("BLF") for the acquisitions of the Murphy and Mitsuuchi properties, or portions thereof, at the Batiquitos Lagoon, located in the City of Carlsbad, San Diego County.

The acquisition of a portion of the Murphy and the entire Mitsuuchi property will provide protection for the biological resources of the lagoon, which is a State Ecological Reserve. These properties suffer from erosion control problems and invasive species, which negatively impact the health of the lagoon and its surrounding habitats. In addition, the northeast corner of the lagoon, possibly including these properties, provides habitat for several pairs of the State-listed endangered Belding's Savannah sparrow. The Department supports the acquisition of these properties to increase the buffer area surrounding the nesting habitat of these birds and to prevent future development that may occur if the properties remain in private ownership.

The Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation is a small 501(c)3 corporation that was formed in 1982 by a group of citizens concerned about the future of the lagoon. The BLF, as the only citizens group at the lagoon, has been instrumental in the restoration and public access projects that have been completed. The BLF is a volunteer-driven organization without the funds to pursue acquisition projects. Financial assistance from the State Coastal Conservancy would allow them to pursue the actions necessary to protect and enhance the ecological health and public enjoyment of the lagoon.

If you have questions on this correspondence, please contact Mr. Tim Dillingham, the Department's Reserve Manager for Batiquitos Lagoon. He can be reached at the letterhead address or by telephone at 858-467-4204. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Eng, Ph.D.
Regional Manager

cc: See attached.

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JUN 07 2006

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



City of Carlsbad

Office of the City Council

May 9, 2006

Ms. Deborah Ruddock
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

SUPPORT FOR BATIQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION ACQUISITION OF THE MURPHY AND MITSUUCHI PROPERTIES, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AT BATIQUITOS LAGOON

Dear Ms. Ruddock

I am writing in support of the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation's request for financial assistance from the State Coastal Conservancy to assist in the acquisition of the Murphy and Mitsuuchi properties.

The acquisition of these properties will serve the citizens of Carlsbad in several ways. First, purchase of these properties will make possible the completion of the Batiquitos Lagoon North Shore Trail, which is the most frequently used area for public access at the lagoon. Second, further enhancement of the lagoon will be possible because of erosion control measures and invasive species removal that are needed on these properties. Finally, these properties contain wetland and upland habitat that will buffer the lagoon from surrounding urban development. The City of Carlsbad appreciates the value of a buffer for the lagoon because this will help to protect the investment that was made at the lagoon through the 1996 enhancement program.

The Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation ("BLF") is a small 501(c)3 corporation that was formed in 1982 by a group of citizens concerned about the future of the lagoon. The BLF, as the only citizens group at the lagoon, has been instrumental in the restoration and public access projects that have been completed to date. The BLF is a volunteer-driven organization without the funds to pursue acquisition. Financial assistance from the State Coastal Conservancy would allow them to pursue the actions necessary to protect and enhance the ecological health and public enjoyment of the lagoon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


ANN J. KULCHIN
City Council Member

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MAY 15 2006

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

